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Application No.: 10/526,248

Docket No.: JCLA12555

In The Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (currently amended) A fluidized bed apparatus used for coating processing or granulation processing of powder particles, comprising a processing container, a draft tube arranged inside the processing container, and a disintegrator mechanism for dispersing agglomerates of powder particles by a mechanical disintegration force, ~~the fluidized bed apparatus being characterized in that:~~

wherein a fluidizing gas introduced ~~[[from]]~~through a bottom portion of the processing container causes powder particles in the processing container to form a fluidized bed in which the powder particles circulate so as to ascend through a space between an inner wall of the processing container and the draft tube, and descend through an inner portion of the draft tube~~[[;]]~~, and

~~_____~~agglomerates of the powder particles descending through the inner portion of the draft tube are dispersed by the disintegrator mechanism, and

wherein the fluidized bed apparatus further comprises a rotary rotor for sending the powder particles that have passed the disintegrator mechanism to an upward current of the fluidizing gas by centrifugal force.

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2. (currently amended) A fluidized bed apparatus used for coating processing or granulation processing of powder particles according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the disintegrator mechanism comprises an impeller having a disintegrator blade.

3. (currently amended) A fluidized bed apparatus used for coating processing or granulation processing of powder particles according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the disintegrator mechanism further comprises a screen arranged at a predetermined gap from the disintegrator blade of the impeller.

4. (currently amended) A fluidized bed apparatus used for coating processing or granulation processing of powder particles according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the disintegrator mechanism comprises a rotor and a stator each having a plurality of concentrically arranged teeth.

Claim 5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A fluidized bed apparatus used for coating processing or granulation processing of powder particles according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the fluidized bed apparatus comprises a spray nozzle for spraying a spray solution to the powder particles fluidizing and circulating in the processing container.

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7. (currently amended) A fluidized bed apparatus used for coating processing or granulation processing of powder particles according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spray nozzle is arranged such that the spray nozzle can spray the spray solution to the powder particles that have passed the disintegrator mechanism.

Claims 8-17. (cancelled)